

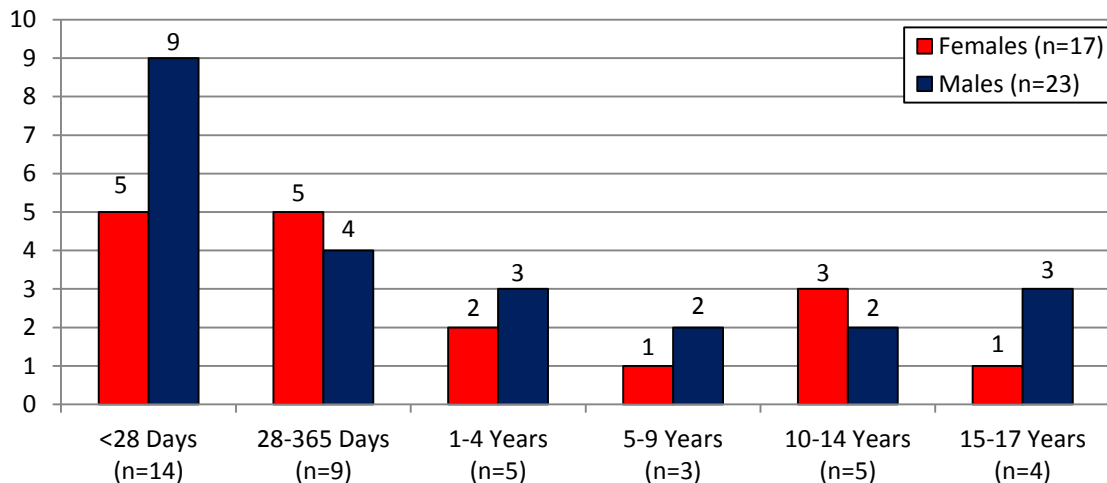


2010 CHILD FATALITY REVIEW FOR PINAL COUNTY

DEMOGRAPHICS

This report provides information on the deaths of children who were residents of Pinal County. During 2010, there were 40 deaths among children younger than 18 years of age in Pinal County. Males accounted for 58 percent of child deaths (n=23) and females accounted for 42 percent (n=17). Figure 1 shows deaths among children by sex and age group.

**Figure 1. Deaths Among Children by Sex and Age Group,
Pinal County, Arizona 2010 (n=40)**

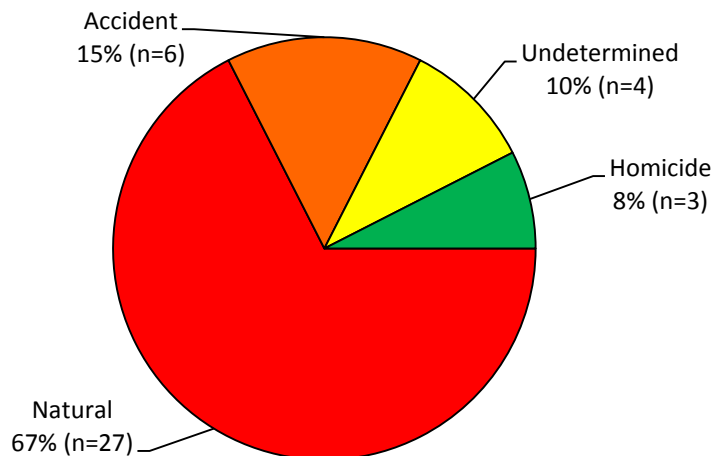


Deaths were over-represented among Hispanic and African American children in Pinal County. Hispanic children comprised 37 percent of the population in this county but 43 percent of the fatalities (n=17). African American children comprised five percent of the population, but 12 percent of the child fatalities (n=5). White, Non-Hispanic children comprised 46 percent of the population and 43 percent of the fatalities (n=17). American Indian children comprised six percent of the population and two percent of the fatalities (n=1).

CAUSE AND MANNER OF CHILD FATALITIES

Sixty-seven percent of deaths were due to natural manners (n=27). Fifteen percent of deaths were due to accidents (n=6). Ten percent of child fatalities were of an undetermined manner and there were three homicides among children in 2010 in Pinal County (eight percent). Fifteen percent of child deaths in Pinal county were accidental (n=6). Figure 2 shows deaths among children by manner.

**Figure 2. Deaths Among Children by Manner,
Pinal County, Arizona 2010 (n=40)**



Three children died in motor vehicle crashes, and two children died from firearm-related injuries. Twelve deaths were due to medical causes. Twenty-six of the deaths determined to have been natural were the result of medical causes, including prematurity. There were three deaths due to drowning, and four deaths were of an undetermined cause. Two children died by firearms. Table 1 shows deaths among children by cause and manner.

Table 1. Deaths Among Children by Cause and Manner, Pinal County, Arizona 2010 (n=40)					
Cause	Natural	Accident	Homicide	Undetermined	Total
Medical*	12	0	0	0	12
Prematurity	14	0	0	0	14
Motor Vehicle Crash	0	3	0	0	3
Firearm	0	0	2	0	2
Drowning	0	2	0	1	3
Undetermined	1	0	0	3	4
Other Injury	0	1	1	0	2
Total	27	6	3	4	40

Among the three motor vehicle crash deaths, all children were pedestrians.

PREVENTABILITY

Child Fatality Review Teams consider a child's death preventable if something could have been done (by an individual such as the caregiver or supervisor, or by the community as a whole) that would have prevented the death. The Local Child Fatality Review Team determined that 25 percent of the deaths among Pinal County children could have been prevented (n=10).

During the review of each child's death, teams identify factors believed to have contributed to the death. Although the presence of a contributing factor typically led to the determination that a death was preventable, this was not always the case. For example, the team might have concluded that an unsafe sleep environment (e.g. infant left sleeping on a couch) was a contributing factor in an unexpected infant death. However, the team may not have had sufficient information (e.g. autopsy report, adequate scene investigation) to determine if the death could have been prevented.

In Pinal County, drugs and/or alcohol was a contributing factor for 12 deaths (30 percent). Lack of supervision was a contributing factor for 6 deaths (15 percent), and unsafe infant sleep environments contributed to three deaths (eight percent). More than one factor may have been identified for each death. Table 2 shows the most common factors contributing to the deaths of child residents of Pinal County.

Table 2. Contributing Factors for Deaths Among Children, Pinal County, Arizona 2010		
Factor*	Number	Percent
Substance use	12	30%
Lack of supervision	6	15%
Co-sleeping	3	8%
*More than one factor may have been identified for each death		

CHILD FATALITIES IN PINAL COUNTY COMPARED TO OTHER ARIZONA COUNTIES

This section provides comparisons between the deaths of children who resided in Pinal County and the deaths of children who resided in the remaining 14 Arizona counties. During 2010, 40 children who were residents of Pinal County died, and 801 children died who were residents of the other 14 counties. Pinal County had a crude rate of 40.1 child deaths per 100,000 residents, a lower rate than the remainder of the state (52.4 deaths per 100,000 residents).

Pinal County had a lower percentage of preventable deaths compared to the remaining counties. One-quarter of the deaths among Pinal County children could have been prevented (25 percent, n=10), compared to over one-third of child deaths in the remaining counties (34 percent, n=269).

Prematurity was the leading cause of child deaths in Pinal County (35 percent), where the leading cause of death in the remainder of Arizona was due to medical causes (43 percent). Child deaths of an undetermined manner accounted for 10 percent of child

deaths among Pinal County residents but only nine percent for the rest of Arizona. Motor vehicle crashes accounted for eight percent of deaths in Pinal County but seven percent in the remaining counties. Drowning deaths accounted for seven percent of child deaths in Pinal County but only four percent of deaths in the remaining counties. Table 3 shows the leading causes of child deaths for Pinal County compared to the rest of Arizona.

Table 3. Leading Causes of Child Deaths, Pinal County, Arizona 2010			
Pinal County (n=40)		Arizona, Excluding Pinal County (n=801)	
Cause	Percent of Deaths	Cause	Percent of Deaths
Prematurity	35%	Prematurity	22%
Medical	30%	Medical	43%
Undetermined	10%	Undetermined	9%
Motor Vehicle Crash	8%	Motor Vehicle Crash	7%
Drowning	7%	Drowning	4%

In Pinal County, the second largest percentage of deaths was due to accidents (15 percent), a lower percentage than in the remaining counties, where accidents accounted for 18 percent of child deaths. There was a slightly higher percentage of natural deaths in Pinal County (67 percent), compared to the rest of the state (66 percent). Homicides accounted for four percent of child deaths in the remainder of Arizona, and eight percent of the child deaths in Pinal County. There were no suicides in Pinal County in 2010. Table 4 shows deaths among children by manner for Pinal County compared to the rest of Arizona.

Table 4. Deaths Among Children by Manner, Pinal County, Arizona 2010			
Pinal County (n=40)		Arizona, Excluding Pinal County (n=801)	
Manner	Percent of Deaths	Manner	Percent of Deaths
Natural	67%	Natural	66%
Accident	15%	Accident	18%
Suicide	0%	Suicide	3%
Homicide	8%	Homicide	4%
Undetermined	10%	Undetermined	9%